

of overspending, he wants to starve Superfund to death.

Now, I'd be the first to admit that Superfund hasn't been a perfect program. At first critics were right that it was a bonanza for everyone except the communities who were suffering from pollution and contamination. But that's all changed now, and the companies that are polluting our neighborhoods and communities, now want to get off scott free and President Bush is aiding and abetting them.

Sadly, President Bush named as his Secretary of Interior a woman who believes that companies have a constitutional right to pollute. Now, Bush is allowing that kind of thinking to leach into the Superfund program, thus shielding corporations from the responsibilities of cleaning up what they mess up. Now, President Bush wants teachers, and police officers, and America's working families to foot that bill.

By eliminating the Superfund tax, corporate polluters will no longer have to support the fund that protects me and you from the damage that they do.

Bush should stop rewarding his fat cat friends and represent America's working families.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, The first day of school is a memorable day for parents. The image of our daughters and sons, small packs on their backs, lunchboxes at their sides, leading us through the doors of their new classrooms is one not forgotten by any parents. The image reflects our hope for them as they embrace a new role in their communities and their nation.

The compact between a nation and a child is simple. The nation prepares the child to accept the mantle of its stewardship. The nation educates a child, providing the tools that the child will later use to further the progress of the nation.

The nation that does not honor this compact is a nation disgraced. The nation that establishes, expands, or renews this compact deserves recognition. This is what I seek to do today as I rise in tribute to the events of March 23, the first day of school for many of the girls of Afghanistan.

I offer my deep appreciation to all those who made this day possible. Their unwavering conviction that this compact would one day be honored in Afghanistan was realized March 23. These parents, teachers, and international aid workers labored tirelessly to provide books and supplies for schools in communities across Afghanistan.

Through their education, the children of Afghanistan will gain a greater understanding of the people within their nation's border and knowledge of the world beyond them.

On March 23, parents in Afghanistan heard the sound of doors swinging open and their children walking determinedly through them. Echoed in this, I can hear my daughter walking through the door of her elementary school many years ago. I join with parents around the world who share the joy and pride and over-

whelming hope of the parents of Afghanistan to honor of this great occasion: their children's first day of school.

HONORING COLONEL BRENT W. MARLER

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to commend the distinguished career of Colonel Brent W. Marler and congratulate him on his retirement from the United States Air Force and the California Air National Guard. Colonel Marler retired on April 1st of this year after 30 years of dedicated service to our country.

A native of Spring Valley, California, Colonel Marler graduated from the distinguished Air Force ROTC program at Brigham Young University. Immediately following graduation, he received an officer's commission in the Air Force.

While serving in the Air Force, Colonel Marler flew the F-4 in Germany and Korea, completing several successful missions. He was then promoted to be the Officer in Charge, Weapons Systems Command and Control in the 163rd Tactical Fighter Wing. With the introduction of personal computers, Colonel Marler volunteered his time to teach others, leading to the automation efforts in his squadron. He also served in the 58th Tactical Training Squadron at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona, making significant upgrades to course materials that improved training throughout the Air Force.

Colonel Marler's personal dedication has improved the quality of equipment used by the United States Air Force and California Air National Guard. Through his personal intervention, he successfully managed to acquire funding for critically needed replacement aircraft, which made it possible to save the C-22 program in the Air National Guard. Furthermore he introduced Commercial Video Cockpit equipment to the A-7, A-10 and F-16, giving the Air National Guard a price effective edge in video surveillance. Colonel Marler also led the effort to replace the retiring RF-4C with the F-16 for reconnaissance purposes.

Colonel Marler has led a zealous and patriotic career in the United States Air Force and California Air National Guard. These distinctive accomplishments in both operational and leadership roles of duty, culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of his country. With the retirement of Colonel Marler, our country loses a valuable member of the Armed Services and his dedication and commitment will surely be missed.

RECOGNIZING JOHN BROWNE

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Browne, chief executive of BP for his distinctive leadership on the issue of climate change. In 1997, at Stanford Uni-

versity, John Browne took a bold step; he broke from his peers in the oil and gas industry and set a target to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from company operations. The target he set was a ten percent reduction below a 1990 baseline by the year 2010.

Just last week this same man again stood before an audience at Stanford to announce that the company had achieved the target, and done so eight years ahead of schedule. Importantly, this was done at no net cost to the company. Mr. Browne further announced that BP would continue its quest to reduce the carbon intensity of its activities and stabilize carbon emissions at current levels while growing the company. This, he said would be achieved through focusing on technology improvements, gains in efficiency and through offering less carbon intensive products to customers.

Mr. Speaker, the actions on the part of John Browne and BP clearly demonstrate that a little bit of initiative can go a long way. This is leadership—we need more of it here in the US on the matter of climate change, because this issue is not going to go away.

I applaud the achievements of John Browne and the progressive company that he leads.

Attached is a copy of Mr. Browne's Stanford speech for my colleagues' consideration.

EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT OF JOHN BROWNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, BP, STANFORD UNIVERSITY—11 MARCH 2002

Beyond Petroleum: Energy and the Environment in the 21st Century

Stanford is a place to which I first came twenty-three years ago to learn about business. And it's place to which I came back five years ago to talk about the issue of climate change and global warming.

Climate change is an issue which raises fundamental questions about the relationship between companies and society as a whole; and between one generation and the next. It is an issue which is about leadership as well as science.

It was clear that the issue was global, potentially affecting everyone. And it was equally clear that the only practical solutions would be ones which recognized the human desire for improved living standards.

To ask people to sacrifice the future would be unrealistic. To deny the basic aspirations of hundreds of millions of people to escape from poverty would be immoral.

It was clear too, that the immediate challenge couldn't be solved by a sudden magical transformation of the energy mix, through the replacement of oil and gas by alternative and renewable forms of energy.

In 1997 we accepted that logic. We set our own target—to reduce our own emissions of greenhouse gases by 10 per cent from a 1990 base line by the year 2010. That was broadly in line with the Kyoto targets, and based on the presumption that at some point in the future those target of something similar would be converted into mandated objectives. At that time, we didn't know precisely how we were going to achieve our target—but we had some initial ideas.

Now, five years on, I'm delighted to announce that we've delivered on that target.

That means our emissions of carbon dioxide have fallen to almost 80 million tonnes, 10 million tonnes below the level in 1990 . . . and 14 million tonnes below the level they had reached in 1998.

That achievement is the product not of a single magic bullet . . . but of hundreds of different initiatives carried through by tens of thousands of people across BP over the last five years. They deserve the credit . . .